

UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009

HomeAbout

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Today's Election May Be Close



It happened back in the day, too:



Or direct to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i18T0y96LXU>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [12:35 AM](#) No comments:

Labels: [politics](#)

Avoid It



Lane Closures on Wilshire Blvd Near Veteran Ave

Frontier Kemper Tutor Perini Joint Venture (FKTP) and our subcontractors will be conducting Cone Penetration Tests (CPT) and road restoration on Wilshire Blvd. This work is being conducted at the request of the Metro Transportation Authority for the Purple Line Extension 3 project.

Construction Period: November 13th to November 19th 18th

Work Hours: 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Traffic Control:

The Council of UC Faculty Associations

- [Faculty File Historic Academic Freedom Unfair Labor Practice Charges Against UC](#)
- [Union Letter to UC with Benefits Demands](#)
- [We Oppose Deprofessionalizing Librarians](#)
- [We Oppose AB-1418's Inadequate Protection from the Harms of Facial Recognition Tech](#)
- [We Oppose SB-1287's Restrictions on Protected Speech](#)

Remaking the University

- [Liner Note 9. BONFIRE OF THE KNOWLEDGES \(PART 4\): Interpretation as Counterpower - 12/31/2024](#)
- [MLA and BDS 3: Letter from Current and Former Members of the MLA Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities to MLA Executive Director and Executive Council on Blocking the Debate - 12/30/2024](#)
- [MLA and BDS 2: Letter from former members of the MLA Executive Council to Current Executive Council on Blocking the Debate - 12/29/2024](#)

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Other Faculty Organizations

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- [California Faculty Association \(NEA\)](#)
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- Multiple-Lane closures along Wilshire Blvd.
- Road access is maintained on either side of the construction work area.
- Sidewalk access will be maintained.

Noteworthy:

- All work has received the necessary permits and approval.
- Access to driveways, residences, and business will be maintained at all times unless notified in advance.
- Access for pedestrians will be maintained outside of construction zones.
- Access for the Fire Department and emergency responders will be maintained.
- For construction-related issues needing immediate attention, please call Metro's 24-hour Hotline at 213.922.6934.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [12:30 AM](#) No comments:     

Labels: [traffic](#), [UCLA](#)

Monday, November 4, 2024

Regents Meeting Agenda: Nov. 12-14, 2024



The Regents schedule for Nov. 12-14, 2024 is now available:

November 12-14, 2024, UC-San Francisco

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

1:00 pm **Health Services Committee** (open session - includes *public comment session*)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of July 16 and August 14 and the Joint Meeting of the Governance Committee and the Health Services Committee of July 17, 2024

Governance Committee and the Health Services Committee of July 17, 2024

Public Comment Period (30 minutes)

H1 Discussion: Update from the Executive Vice President of UC Health

H2 Discussion: Addressing Community Health Needs: Community Benefit Report and the Role of the Anchor Institution

H3 Discussion: UCLA Health Medicare Advantage Plan Update

H4 Discussion: Positioning the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine to Respond to Emerging Challenges across California

-

Upon end of open session: **Health Services Committee** (closed session)

Agenda – Closed Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of July 16 and August 14, 2024

H5(X) Discussion: UC Health Litigation Update

4:00 pm **Investments Committee** (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of May 14, July 17, and September 19, 2024

I1 Discussion: Review of First Quarter 2024–25 Fiscal Year Performance for UC Retirement, Endowment, and Working Capital Assets

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Wednesday, November 13, 2024

8:30 am **Board** (open session - includes *public comment session*)

Agenda – Open Session

Public Comment Period (30 minutes)

Remarks of the Chair of the Board

Remarks of the President of the University

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Blog Archive

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Contributors

•  [California Policy Issues](#)

•  [Toby Higbie](#)

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Remarks of the Chair of the Academic Senate

Concurrent Meetings:

9:30 am **Finance and Capital Strategies Committee** (closed session)

Agenda – Closed Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 18, 2024

F1(X) Action: Medical Office Buildings and Associated Improvements, Los Angeles Campus: Acquisition

F2(X) Action: Downtown Mixed-Use Development, Santa Barbara Campus: Acquisition and External Financing

F3(X) Discussion: Legal Compliance Regarding Cal Softball Field Renovation Project, Berkeley Campus

-

Upon the end of closed session: **Finance and Capital Strategies Committee** (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 18, 2024

Consent Agenda:

F4A Action: Consent Item: Bank Line Program: External Financing

F4B Action: Consent Item: Rancho Bernardo Healthcare Center Medical Office Building, San Diego Campus: Design Following Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act

F4C Action: Consent Item: La Jolla Medical Center Tower 2, San Diego Campus: Preliminary Plans Funding

F4D Action: Consent Item: East Campus Student Housing, Santa Barbara Campus: Preliminary Plans Funding

F4E Action: Consent Item: Central Utility Plant Modernization and Expansion Project, UC Davis Health, Sacramento Campus: Budget, Scope, External Financing, and Design Following Adoption of Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act

F5 Action: Cogeneration Plant Equipment Replacement, Los Angeles

Campus: Budget Amendment and External Financing

F6 Action: Cal Softball Field Renovation, Berkeley Campus: Amendment of Budget, External Financing, Scope, and Design Following Certification of an Environmental Impact Report Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act

F7 Action: San Benito Student Housing, Santa Barbara Campus: Budget, Scope, External Financing, Long Range Development Plan Amendment #7 and Design Following Consideration of an Addendum to the 2010 Long Range Development Plan Environmental Impact Report Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act

F8 Action: University of California Consolidated Capital Report and 2024-30 Capital Financial Plan

F9 Action: University of California Financial Reports, 2024

F10 Action: University of California 2025-26 Budget for Current Operations and State Request for Capital Projects

F11 Discussion: Annual Actuarial Valuations for the University of California Retirement Plan and Its Segments and for the 1991 University of California – Public Employees' Retirement System Voluntary Early Retirement Incentive Program

F12 Discussion: Annual Actuarial Valuation of the University of California Retiree Health Benefit Program

F13 Information: Report of Budget to Actual Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2023-24 for the Office of the President; and First Quarter Fiscal Year 2024-25 Results

9:30 am **Academic and Student Affairs Committee** (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 18, 2024

A1 Action: Designation of the Strathearn Ranch Reserve (San Benito County) into the University of California Natural Reserve System

A2 Discussion: Research Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence

A3 Discussion: Annual Accountability Sub-Report on Diversity: UC 2023 – Equity Is Excellence

A4 Discussion: Updates on Federal Financial Aid and Path to Debt-Free UC

Noon: Joint Meeting: **Board and Special Committee on the Selection of the President** (closed Session)

Agenda – Closed Session

J1(X) Discussion: Consideration of Matters Pertaining to Presidential Search Criteria and Potential Applicants

1:00 pm **Governance Committee** (closed session)

Agenda – Closed Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 18-19, 2024

G1(X) Discussion: Collective Bargaining Matters

G2(X) Discussion: Appointment of and Compensation for Senior Vice President – External Relations and Communications, Office of the President

-

Upon end of closed session: **Governance Committee** (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 19, 2024 and the Joint Meeting of the Governance Committee and the Health Services Committee of July 17, 2024

G2 Action: Approval of Appointment of and Compensation for Senior Vice President – External Relations and Communications, Office of the President as Discussed in Closed Session

G3 Discussion: Biennial Report on Diversity in Campus and Systemwide Executive Searches

G4 Action: Amendment of Regents Policy 4400: Policy on University of California Diversity Statement

Concurrent Meetings:

1:25 pm **Compliance and Audit Committee** (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 19, 2024

C1 Discussion: Ethics, Compliance and Audit Services Annual Report 2023-24

C2 Discussion: Annual Report of External Auditors for the Year Ended June 30, 2024

-

Upon the end of open session: **Compliance and Audit Committee** (closed session)

Agenda – Closed Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of September 19, 2024

C3(X) Discussion: Compliance and Audit Personnel Matters

C4(X) Discussion: Annual Consultation with Regents' Auditors Concerning Performance of University Personnel

C5(X) Discussion: Digital Risk Update

C6(X) Discussion: Review of Litigation Settlement Corrective Actions

C7(X) Action: Recommended Settlements for Board Action

C8(X) Discussion: Appellate, Trial Court Developments and Updates

Includes YOUNG AMERICA'S FOUNDATION, et al. v. BLOCK, et al. – Complaint Filed – First Amendment – Los Angeles (relates to a speaker on campus)

C9(X) Information: Settlements and Separation Agreements under Delegated Authority Reported from August 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024

1:25 pm **Public Engagement and Development Committee** (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 17, 2024

P1 Discussion: Update from Interim Senior Vice President of External Relations and Communications

P2 Discussion: Annual Report on Private Support

P3 Discussion: Partnership in Advocacy: A Collaboration Between UC Student Association, UC Graduate and Professional Council, and UC State and Federal Government Relations

P4 Discussion: Harvesting Excellence through Innovation: UC's Contributions to the Wine Industry, Past, Present, and Future

4:10 pm **Special Committee on Athletics** (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of May 14 and September 19, 2024

S1 Discussion: Campus Athletics Overview: UC Berkeley and UC Riverside

-

Upon the end of open session: **Special Committee on Athletics** (closed session)

Agenda – Closed Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 14, 2024

S2(X) Discussion: Student-Athlete Anti-Trust Litigation

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Thursday, November 14, 2024

8:30 am **Board** (open session - includes *public comment session*)

Agenda – Open Session

Public Comment Period (30 minutes)

Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of September 18 and 19, 2024

Remarks from Student Associations

B1 Discussion: Connected: Lessons from the University of California Systemwide COVID-19 Response

B2 Discussion: University of California Annual Accountability Report

Committee Reports Including Approvals of Recommendations from Committees:

- Academic and Student Affairs Committee
- Compliance and Audit Committee
- Finance and Capital Strategies Committee
- Governance Committee
- Health Services Committee
- Investments Committee
- Special Committee on Athletics

Officers' and President's Reports:

- Report of Interim, Concurrence, and Committee Action:s
- Report of Materials Mailed Between Meetings

10:45 am Board (closed session)

Agenda – Closed Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of August 16 and September 19, 2024

Committee Reports Including Approval of Recommendations from Committees

Officers' and President's Reports:

Personnel Matters

Report of Interim, Concurrence, and Committee Actions

Report of Materials Mailed Between Meetings

B3(X) Discussion: Report on UCLA Protest Response

B4(X) Discussion: Legal Issues Related to Campus Climate

1:00 pm Board (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

B5 Discussion: Campus Climate

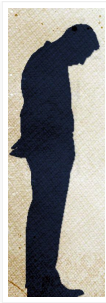
Posted by California Policy Issues at 1:00 AM

No comments:

Labels: UC Regents

Disappointment

Blog readers will know that we check in from time-to-time with the Blackstone Real Estate Trust which UC bailed out of a run on the bank in exchange for promised especially high returns. Whether such returns have been received is unclear. And no one on the Regents' Investment Committee seems to want to ask. (If you are unfamiliar with this story, type in "BREIT" in the search engine of this blog.)



From **Benzinger**: ...On the radar of investors, Blackstone Real Estate Income Trust (BREIT) reported modest gains in September but remains well below the performance threshold needed to generate third-quarter fees (for parent Blackstone), raising concerns from JPMorgan analysts in a recent note ahead of the company's upcoming earnings report.

What To Know: BREIT posted modest gains in September, reporting a performance of +13 basis points (bps), following a +11bps increase in August. This marked BREIT's second consecutive month of positive returns after a challenging July, which saw a decline of -19bps. Despite these recent improvements, BREIT's year-to-date (YTD) performance for 2024 stands at +241bps, still well below the threshold required to trigger performance fees for the third quarter.

For Blackstone to collect performance fees from BREIT, the fund typically needs to meet an annual performance threshold of +5.0%, which is split evenly across the four quarters. However, this year, BREIT faced an even steeper hurdle, due to a negative carryover of 50bps from 2023 and overbookings from late 2022.

Full story at <https://www.benzinga.com/news/24/10/41363696/blackstones-breit-struggles-ahead-of-earnings-as-performance-fees-fall-short>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at **12:35 AM** No comments:



Labels: **endowment, pension, UC Regents**

On the Steps



Janss Steps (never officially so-named) in 1933



UCLA Chancellor Raymond Allen says goodbye to students embarking to India in 1953

Posted by California Policy Issues at **12:30 AM** No comments:



Labels: **miscellaneous, UCLA**

Sunday, November 3, 2024

Fall Back



You didn't forget to set your clock back, did you? Of course not! So as we tend to do at the two clock changes, we provide more than you want to know about clock changing from a lecture in winter 2022 (when masks indoors were required at UCLA):

<https://archive.org/details/mitchell-time-edited> or

<https://ia902206.us.archive.org/19/items/mitchell-time-edited/Mitchell%20time%20edited.mp4>.

Note that the recording is from a file we put up on the Internet Archive which is coming back to life after the cyber attacks. We still can't add files but we now have access to previous uploads. Here's an item that discusses the attacks:

Leave the Internet Archive alone!

by Steven Vaughan-Nichols

Oct 29, 2024, [Computerworld](#)

Except for book publishers, the Internet Archive has done no one any harm. But that hasn't stopped hackers from beating up on the site over and over again.

The web has been a mixed blessing for people who care about information. Yes, it's made it easier than ever to access facts and opinions from around the globe — but it also throws out older data as quickly as it brings in new data. (And let's not even talk about propaganda!)

One shining beacon for recording truthful and accurate records throughout the web's history has been the Internet Archive.

The Archive was created by Brewster Kahle, who, beginning in 1980, wanted "to build a library of everything." His first step in that direction was creating the Internet's first distributed search system, the Wide Area Information Server (WAIS).

When he founded the Archives in 1996, his ambitious goal was to provide "universal access to all knowledge." Kahle and his friends have been remarkably successful. Today, the Archives holds digital copies of 44 million books and texts, 15 million audio recordings, 10.6 million videos, 4.8 million images, a million software programs, and even a copy of Computerworld from 1969.

To do this, he created the Internet Archive and its associated projects, including the Wayback Machine, which allows users to view archived versions of more than 866 billion saved web pages, and the Open Library project, which aims to create a web page for every published book.

It's that last project that got the Archives into legal hot water. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Kahle opened the library for free ebook borrowing via the Controlled Digital Lending (CDL) program. Publishing companies were not amused and the Internet Archive lost the resulting lawsuit, Hachette v. Internet Archive. The court rejected the Archive's fair use defense, finding that its digital lending practices infringed on publishers' copyrights.

That's a huge problem on its own. The Internet Archive is a 501(c)(3) non-profit with a gross revenue in its most recent 990 filing of only \$30.5 million. For the size of the job it's undertaken, it's grossly underfinanced.

Recently, though, adding insult to injury, the Archive has been subjected to one cyber-attack after another. The first major incident occurred Oct. 9-10 and involved two simultaneous attacks: First, hackers exploited a GitLab token, compromising the Archive's source code and stealing user data from 31 million accounts. Concurrently, a pro-Palestinian group called SN BlackMeta launched a Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack, temporarily knocking the site — and the Wayback Machine — offline.

Blackmeta said it hit the site because it belongs to the United States, which supports Israel in the ongoing Palestine-Israel conflict. Uhm, no, no it doesn't. The only cause the Internet Archive espouses is freedom of information, and it has no connection with the US government.

Maybe it should. I could argue that the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) should track the public web, but it doesn't.

Then, on Oct. 20, the Internet Archive suffered yet another security breach: This time, hackers exploited unrotated Zendesk, the help desk support program's application programming interface (API) tokens, to access the Archive's support platform.

The results have been one mess after another. Many of the Archive's services, including the Wayback Machine, have gone dark. In addition, people are worried that some of the data stored by the Archive has been deleted or compromised.

Operators managed to get the site back up, and a few days ago, Kahle told CBC Radio, "It's just so sad. It's great to be back up, and we have millions of people now accessing the site again."

That didn't last. Since then, it's been hammered yet again!

Enough already — crashing the Internet Archive won't make a lick of difference to the world's geopolitical problems. No one will get rich from ripping off the Internet Archive users. There is no point in messing with the Archive. None!

The Archive is a useful library. That's it. That's all. And that's enough.

In particular, the Archive keeps the only real records of what's been on the Web. As we put more of our records and news on the Web and nowhere else, that's vitally important for historians and other people who appreciate knowing who said what to whom and when.

The Archive needs to be preserved, not vandalized. I'm reminded of the dim-minded protestors whose big idea was to throw pumpkin soup on the Mona Lisa. Quick! What were they protesting?

You don't know, do you?

It was about the right to healthy, sustainable food.

That attack made no difference whatsoever.

Vandalism, whether on a politically neutral, useful website or on world-famous art, is not helpful; it's only harmful. And, in the Internet Archive's case, it's also pointless.

Source: <https://www.computerworld.com/article/3593110/leave-the-internet-archive-alone.html/>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [4:47 AM](#) No comments:



Labels: [miscellaneous](#), [UCLA](#)

(Possible) Strike News



From [KQED](#): More than 4,000 health care, research and technical workers at UCSF authorized their union to call a strike over what they say is the university's failure to bargain in good faith about short staffing and other top concerns. The members' vote, which concluded Wednesday, passed with 98% support, according to the University Professional and Technical Employees Local 9119, which represents more than 19,000 physician assistants, optometrists, clinical lab scientists and other UC employees statewide.

The threat of a walkout at UCSF comes as 37,000 UC service and patient care workers with a separate union, the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3299, are also preparing for a potential statewide walkout. That strike authorization vote passed with 99% support, AFSCME said Thursday. Both unions filed unfair labor practice charges with the California Public Employment Relations Board this month, alleging that the university has refused to provide essential job vacancy and financial data needed to assess the extent of staffing crisis and develop solutions in ongoing contract negotiations...

Full story at <https://www.kqed.org/news/12011878/thousands-of-uc-san-francisco-workers-are-preparing-to-strike>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [1:29 AM](#) No comments:



Labels: [strikes](#), [UC](#), [UC-San Francisco](#)

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